



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 5
77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD
CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

SEP 23 1999

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF:
SR-6J

Mr. Nile Fellows
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency
520 Lafayette Rd. N.
St. Paul, MN 55155-4194

RE: Fridley Municipal Well Field Site
EPA ID #MND985701309



Dear Mr. Fellows,

As you know, the Fridley Site was listed on the National Priorities List earlier this year, and as of this point, is a State-lead Site where no responsible parties have been identified. This letter is to confirm the understandings that we reached in our recent telephone conference calls regarding the above-mentioned site.

We were informed that MPCA will be resubmitting a cooperative agreement application to U.S. EPA in order to request funding for the Site. We agreed that several actions can occur at this Site on a parallel track; these are that the Remedial Investigation/ Feasibility Study (RI/FS), and the Potentially Responsible Party (PRP) search.

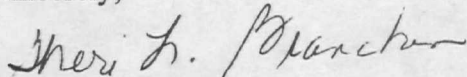
Regarding the PRP search effort to date; this information was presented to U.S. EPA in a PRP search report wherein numerous parties have been identified within a 2 mile radius of the Site. In review of that search, U.S. EPA has identified additional data needs. For example, the report must discuss the importance of the 2 mile radius which is targeted in the report. Furthermore, the report must further explain why of the 45 businesses within a 2 mile radius of the Site where several show solvents as a waste, none are addressed as potential responsible parties. Regarding the solid waste facilities, it is not clear where the other 17 dumps are, and what wastes were handled. In addressing the issue of spills, the report indicates that there are 84 leaksites, only 14 of which are still open, and only 5 of the 14 are within the 2 mile radius. The report then states that these leaksites are leaks of petroleum products and not hazardous wastes. It is not clear if this refers to all 84, or a subset thereof. If it does not refer to all 84, other information needs to be gathered about these spills such as how long ago the spill occurred. U.S. EPA is willing to work with MPCA to determine what additional information needs to be obtained, and which of parties will receive information request letters pursuant to Section 104 (e) of the Superfund law (i.e., CERCLA, as amended by SARA). At a minimum, all parties handling solvents should receive an information request. It is envisioned that MPCA will send those letters.

Regarding the RI, MPCA will review all existing data for the area and make a recommendation whether any further sampling/study is necessary. Given that the contaminated wells are located in the Prairie Du Chien aquifer which is a fractured limestone dolomite bedrock, the usefulness of the further investigation is questionable. However, this must be further explored and documented. For example, whether groundwater flow rate, direction, and gradients can be determined must be documented either using existing data or by gathering new data.

We also tentatively agreed on a schedule for the Site. The schedule that we developed is as follows: MPCA will submit a new cooperative agreement application in October 1999. U.S. EPA will make a decision by the end of that quarter (i.e., December 31, 1999). The RI/FS shall then be undertaken and completed by March 31, 2001. The RD can then be completed by September 30, 2002. At that point, the RA will begin. Of course, if work can, at any point, be accelerated, this would be preferable.

If you would like to discuss this further or have any questions, you may reach me at (312) 886-4745. Thank you and we look forward to working with you on this Site.

Sincerely,



Sheri L. Bianchin
Remedial Project Manager
Remedial Response Section #3

cc: Doug Ballotti
Frank Rollins
Marsha Adams
Lois Betka